

- a3*
- b. exposing said mixture to a peptide as claimed in claim 10; and
- c. detecting whether (and, optionally, to what extent) said peptide has been phosphorylated.

18. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14 or 15, wherein the test substance is an analogue, isoform, inhibitor, or activator of PKB.

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19. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14 or 15, wherein steps a or b (or both) are carried out in the presence of divalent cations and ATP.

22. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21, to combat disease.

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23. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21, to combat cancer.

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25. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the PKB is PKB α , β or γ , an analogue, isoform, inhibitor, activator or a functional equivalent thereof.

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are presented for examination in the subject application. By this preliminary amendment, claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23 and 25 have been amended to adjust the dependencies of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

30 April 2001
Date

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4. (Amended) The use as claimed in claim [1, 2 or] 3, to combat diabetes.

5. (Amended) The use as claimed in [any preceding] claim 3, to combat cancer.

7. (Amended) The use as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the PKB is PKB α , β or γ , an analogue, isoform, inhibitor, activator or a functional equivalent thereof.

8. (Amended) The use as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the PKB, its analogue, isoform, or functional equivalent is modified at one or both of amino acids 308 and 473 by phosphorylation and/or mutation.

15. (Amended) A method of identifying agents which influence the activity of PKB, comprising:

- a. exposing a test substance to a sample containing PKB, to form a mixture;
- b. exposing said mixture to a peptide as claimed in claim 10 [, 11, 12 or 13]; and
- c. detecting whether (and, optionally, to what extent) said peptide has been phosphorylated.

18. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 14 to 17] claim 14 or 15, wherein the test substance is an analogue, isoform, inhibitor, or activator of PKB.

19. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 14 to 18] claim 14 or 15, wherein steps a or b (or both) are carried out in the presence of divalent cations and ATP.

22. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim [20 or] 21, to combat disease.

23. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim [20 or 22] 21, to combat cancer.

25. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 20 to 24] claim 20, wherein the PKB is PKB α , β or γ , an analogue, isoform, inhibitor, activator or a functional equivalent thereof.